

§ 46.245 Errors in records.

If your inventory records or tax computation records contain an error that resulted in an overpayment of tax, you can file a claim for refund. If your inventory or tax computation records contain an error that resulted in an underpayment of tax, you must file an additional tax return on which you show and pay the additional tax, interest and any applicable penalties.

CLAIMS

§ 46.251 Before filing a claim.

Before you can file a claim for refund, you must have paid your floor stocks tax on ATF F 5200.28T and subsequently determined that you overpaid the tax.

§ 46.252 When to file a claim for errors on return.

You must file the claim within 3 years from the due date of filing the tax return or 2 years from the time the tax was paid, whichever is later.

§ 46.253 How to file a claim for errors on return.

Your claim must be filed on ATF Form 2635 (5620.8). The claim must include detailed and sufficient evidence to support why you believe the tax was overpaid. The claim and supporting documentation must be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the form.

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§ 46.254 Destruction of cigarettes by a Presidentially-declared major disaster.

After you have paid the floor stocks tax, you may file a claim for refund of tax on cigarettes lost, rendered unmarketable, or condemned because of a Presidentially-declared major disaster. Refer to subpart C of this part for the time, evidence and procedures for filing a claim.

§ 46.255 Additional reasons for filing a claim.

(a) *Manufacturer.* 27 CFR part 40, subparts I and K state the times, reasons and procedures for filing a claim for refund.

(b) *Export warehouse proprietor.* 27 CFR part 44, subpart G, states the time, evidence and procedures for filing a claim for refund.

(c) *Exported taxpaid.* If cigarettes are shipped from the United States, you may file a claim for drawback of taxes under subpart K of 27 CFR part 44.

(d) *Importer.* An importer may follow the procedures for filing a claim as described in 27 CFR part 275, subpart I.

[T.D. ATF-423, 64 FR 71958, Dec. 22, 1999, as amended by T.D. ATF-460, 66 FR 39093, July 27, 2001; T.D. ATF-464, 66 FR 43479, Aug. 20, 2001]

ALTERNATE METHODS OR PROCEDURES

§ 46.261 Purpose of an alternate method or procedure.

An alternate method or procedure is a different way of performing a requirement than is provided in this subpart of regulations. You would only make a request if you wanted to perform a requirement in a different way than is provided in this subpart.

§ 46.262 How to apply for approval.

You must apply in writing to the National Revenue Center, 550 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3263. You must describe the alternate method or procedure and reasons you wish to use it. You cannot use the alternate method until you receive written approval from ATF.

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§ 46.263 Conditions for approval.

The alternate method or procedure may be approved if it meets all of the following conditions:

- (a) There is good cause for its use.
- (b) It is consistent with the purpose and effect intended by the prescribed method or procedure.
- (c) It affords equivalent security to the revenue.
- (d) It is not contrary to any provision of law.
- (e) It will not result in an increase in cost to the Government.
- (f) It will not hinder the effective administration of this subpart such as delaying timely payment of taxes.

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(g) It is not a method or procedure that relates to the payment or collection of tax.

§ 46.264 Withdrawal of an alternate method or procedure.

The approval will be withdrawn if revenue is jeopardized or administration of this subpart is hindered. ATF will give you a written notice of the withdrawal.

ATF AUTHORITIES

§ 46.270 [Reserved]

§ 46.271 Entry, examination and testimony.

Appropriate ATF officers, in performing official duties, may enter any premises to examine cigarettes subject to floor stocks tax. They may enter the premises during the day or may also enter at night if the premises are open. Appropriate ATF officers may audit and examine all cigarettes, inventory records, books, papers, or other resource data for the purpose of ascertaining, determining or collecting floor stocks tax. They may take testimony (under oath) of any person when inquiring as to proper payment of floor stocks taxes.

§ 46.272 Issuance of summons.

Appropriate ATF officers can issue summonses when there is no Justice Department referral under the author-

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ity stated in 27 CFR 70.22. The summons will state a place and time for such items or person to appear. ATF will issue a summons to require:

(a) Any books of account or other data pertaining to liability of floor stocks tax.

(b) Any person liable for the floor stocks tax or having possession of books of account or other data.

(c) Any other appropriate person in connection with the books or tax liability.

§ 46.273 Refusing entry or examination.

If you or another person in charge of the premises refuses to admit any appropriate ATF officer or prevents any appropriate ATF officer from examining the records or cigarettes, you may be liable for the penalties described in 26 U.S.C. 7342 and 7212, respectively.

§ 46.274 Penalties for failure to comply.

If you fail to follow these regulations, ATF may apply applicable civil and criminal penalties under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. For example, failure to file and failure to pay penalties may be assessed against you if you do not timely file your tax return or timely pay the taxes due. In addition, interest under 26 U.S.C. 6621 accrues for any underpayment of tax and on all assessed penalties until paid.